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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/077,214 05/26/98 SCHMIDT

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HM12/1203  
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EXAMINER

SCHWADRON, R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1644

12

DATE MAILED:

12/03/99

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trad marks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/077,214

Applicant(s)

Schmidt et al.

Examiner  
Ron Schwadron, Ph.D.

Group Art Unit  
1644

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire   7   month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 36-68 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) 51, 52, and 55-68 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☒ Claims 36-50, 53, and 54 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

1. **Please Note:** In an effort to enhance communication with our customers and reduce processing time, Group 1640 is running a Fax Response Pilot for Written Restriction Requirements. A dedicated Fax machine is in place to receive your responses. The Fax number is 703-305-3704. A Fax cover sheet is attached to this Office Action for your convenience. We encourage your participation in this Pilot program. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact Supervisory Patent Examiner Christina Chan, at 703-308-3973. Thank you in advance for allowing us to enhance our customer service. Please limit the use of this dedicated Fax number to responses to Written Restrictions.

2. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, claims 36-50,53,54 in Paper No. 11 is acknowledged.

3. Claims 51,52,55-68 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a non-elected inventions. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 11.

4. Upon further consideration, the following species election is now required. Paragraph 3 of the previous Office Action details why the claimed inventions lack unity of invention.

5. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

- 1) Tumor vaccine containing tumor cells (claims 36-50)
- 2) Tumor vaccine containing tumor cells and fibroblasts (claim 53)
- 3) Tumor vaccine containing tumor cells and dendritic cells (claim 54)

These vaccines use different types of cells or mixtures of cells wherein the cells are structurally and functionally distinct.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held

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to be allowable.

6. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

(a) If applicant elects the species of claim 36 above, the following species election is required. Claim 36 is generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising:

1) The tumor vaccine of claim 36 which uses the peptide recited in part (a) of said claim (also includes claims 42-47)

2) The tumor vaccine of claim 36 which uses the peptide recited in part (b) of said claim

3) The tumor vaccine of claim 36 which uses the peptide recited in part (a and b) of said claim (also includes claims 42-47).

These vaccines use different peptides or combinations of said peptides wherein the peptides are structurally and functionally distinct.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed.

(b) If applicant elections the species of claim 53 or 54 in paragraph 5 of this Office Action, the same species election is required as it pertains to said claims.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

7. If applicant elects the species 1 or 3 in the previous paragraph, section 6 (a) (eg. vaccine only containing tumor cells), the following election is required.

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

1) Tumor vaccine containing viral peptide (claims 43,44)

- 2) Tumor vaccine containing bacterial peptide (claim 45)
- 3) Tumor vaccine containing foreign antigen (claims 46 and 47)

These vaccines use different types of peptides wherein the peptides are structurally and functionally distinct.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claim 36 is generic.

8. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

- 1) Tumor vaccine which uses autologous tumor cells (claim 37)
- 2) Tumor vaccine which uses allogeneic tumor cells (claim 38-40)
- 3) Tumor vaccine which uses autologous and allogeneic tumor cells (41)

These vaccines use different types of tumors or combinations of said tumors wherein the tumors are structurally and functionally distinct.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claim 36 is generic.

9. If applicant elected the species of claim 53 or 54, the following election is required.

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

- 1) Tumor vaccine wherein third set of peptides binds MHC class I
- 2) Tumor vaccine wherein third set of peptides binds MHC class II

These vaccines use different types of peptides wherein the peptides are structurally and functionally distinct.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held

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to be allowable.

10. Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

11. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

12. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Dr. Ron Schwadron whose telephone number is (703) 308-4680. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:30 to 6:00. A message may be left on the examiners voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Ms Christina Chan can be reached on (703) 308-3974. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to

Serial No. 09/179244

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the Group 1600 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

RONALD B. SCHWADRON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
GROUP 1800 1600



Ron Schwadron, Ph.D.

Primary Examiner

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December 2, 1999